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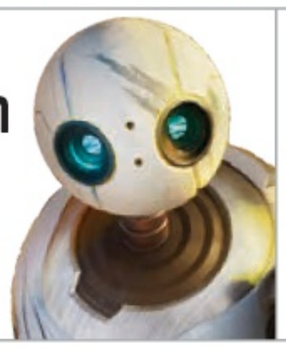

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THE WEEK Junior

Making sense of the world

THE BEST MAGAZINE FOR CURIOUS KIDS

TRUMP WINS

After a competitive and closely watched campaign, Donald Trump is elected President for the second time p2

ELECTION 2024

ELECTION 2024

DID YOU KNOW?
The 22nd Amendment of the US Constitution says that a person can only be elected President twice.

Donald Trump and his wife, Melania, at the Palm Beach County Convention Center on November 6

Donald Trump elected US President

In the election on November 5, Donald Trump, a Republican who served as President from 2017 to 2021, won a second term in the White House. He defeated Vice President Kamala Harris, a Democrat.

What happened?

As Election Day neared, polls showed a very tight race. Both campaigns focused on the seven "swing" states—Arizona, Georgia, Nevada, North Carolina, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin—that were most likely to determine the election. More than 84 million Americans voted early, while the rest voted in person on November 5. As polling sites closed, election officials spent hours counting the votes and news outlets began reporting the winner of each state. A candidate needs 270 electoral votes to win the White House. At 5:34 a.m. Eastern Time on November 6, news organizations determined that Trump had won in Wisconsin, putting him at 277 electoral votes. That meant that even though no winner had been declared in several other swing states, Harris would no longer be able to reach 270 electoral votes. Republicans also took control of the Senate, which is one half of Congress, the branch of government that makes laws (see page 4).

JD Vance

What were the voting results?

When *The Week Junior* went to press at 9 a.m. on November 6, Trump had won 71.2 million votes in the popular vote (number of individuals who vote for a candidate), which amounted to 51% of the votes cast. Harris' total was 66.3 million in the popular vote (47.5%) and 224 electoral votes. Trump captured the swing states of Georgia, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania along with states throughout the country that usually vote Republican. No official winner had been named in Arizona, Michigan, and Nevada, but Trump seemed to be set to win those states as well.

Why is this historic?

Trump was the nation's 45th President and will also be the 47th. He is the second President in US history to win a non-consecutive term, after Grover Cleveland in 1892. Trump is also the only former or current US President who has been convicted of a crime. In May, a jury in New York found him guilty of 34 counts of falsifying business records to influence the 2016 election. If Harris had won, she would have become the nation's first female President. Her defeat marks the second time in eight years that a woman became the nominee of a major party and lost. Trump defeated Hillary Clinton in 2016.

How did people react?

At about 2:30 a.m. on Wednesday morning, Trump delivered his victory speech from the Palm Beach County Convention Center in Florida. "We're going to help our country heal," he said, adding that he "will not rest until we have delivered the strong, safe, and prosperous America that our children deserve." Many world leaders reached out to Trump to extend their congratulations. "Together, let's work for the betterment of our people and to promote global peace, stability, and prosperity," said India's prime minister, Narendra Modi. Keir Starmer, the UK's prime minister, addressed Trump on social media, writing, "As the closest of allies, we stand shoulder to shoulder in defense of our shared values of freedom, democracy, and enterprise." When *The Week Junior* went to press, Harris had not yet spoken publicly.

What will happen next?

After the remaining votes are counted, the total electoral tally will be certified by the states. It will then be formalized in the US Congress in January. Trump will be sworn in as President at his inauguration on January 20 and move back into the White House in Washington, DC. His running mate, JD Vance, who is currently a US senator from Ohio, will be sworn in as Vice President and move into the Naval Observatory, also located in the nation's capital.

Historic home is new polling site

A new polling location in Rochester, New York, has special significance: It was once the home of Susan B. Anthony (1820–1906), who spent decades of her life as a pioneer for women's equality. Now called the National Susan B. Anthony Museum and House, her home was the headquarters of the women's suffrage (right to vote) movement for more than 40 years.

Although Anthony did not live to see it, her efforts resulted in the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920, which granted women the right to vote. Anthony is buried in Rochester, and it has become a tradition for women in the area to place an "I Voted" sticker on her gravestone.

From October 26 to November 3, people stood in line for hours to cast their vote in Anthony's house. "It's very full circle," said one woman who waited with her daughter. "I think about my great-grandmother coming here and not being able to vote at all, and now her great-great-granddaughter is standing in the place where Susan B. Anthony fought for women's rights."

Susan B. Anthony's house

FAST FACT
A recent poll found that 54% of US adults think it's extremely or very important for the US to be active in world affairs.

Global effect of US election

The Presidential election has been a major news story not only in the US but around the world. For the past several months and especially in recent days, media outlets on every continent have covered the candidates and their positions. Governments, businesses, and individuals have taken an intense interest in the outcome.

This is because the US has the world's largest economy and plays a major role in issues of global importance. The President and members of Congress have the power to shape laws and policies that affect other nations and the world.

Climate change is one such issue. America is the second-largest producer (after China) of greenhouse gas emissions, and steps taken in the US affect everyone. US immigration policy also influences countries around the world, especially Mexico. That nation and Canada, the two countries who buy and sell the most goods with the US, are also strongly affected by US trade decisions. International conflict, including the wars being fought between Russia and Ukraine and between Israel and Gaza, is another high-stakes issue.

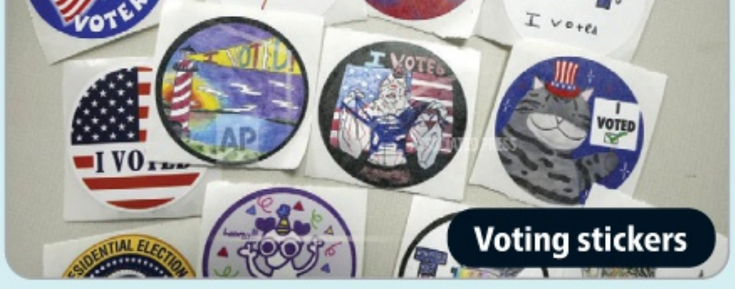
As Donald Trump prepares for his second term as President, it remains to be seen how he will proceed on these and other important issues. In the meantime, the world is bracing for an adjustment to the American leader. "The outcome of the US election holds immense significance, given the unparalleled influence the United States wields," said Martin Griffiths, who led humanitarian efforts at the United Nations.

IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

CHURNING OUT THE VOTE

To get people to the polls, Ben & Jerry's released a limited-edition flavor called Churn Out the Vote (vanilla with pretzels, fudge chips, and chocolate mousse). The ice cream maker also helped people check their voter registration status. Its efforts are "part of a larger campaign to celebrate and activate young voters," the company said.

The special flavor



Voting stickers

STICKER INSPIRATION

Across the country, people proudly displayed "I Voted" stickers from their polling place—many of which were designed by kids. Some show state pride, others are humorous, and all serve an important purpose. "You never know who it might inspire to vote," one person said.

SERVING THE COUNTRY

The Vet the Vote campaign brought military veterans and pro sports leagues together to help election sites run smoothly. More than 163,000 veterans and family members were recruited to work at the polls. "Our veterans understand the importance of working together toward a common goal," the organization said.

VET THE VOTE

ON THE COVER: GETTY IMAGES (2); FUZZYTOWN PRODUCTIONS; LA DODGERS; DREAMWORKS ANIMATION; ON THIS PAGE: GETTY IMAGES; ALAMY; BEN & JERRY'S; AP; VTV; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (2)

Republican Jim Justice was elected US senator from West Virginia.

Republican Kelly Ayotte will be governor of New Hampshire.

Democrat Andy Kim was chosen US senator from New Jersey.

DID YOU KNOW?
A person must be at least 30 years old to serve in the US Senate and at least 25 to serve in the House of Representatives.

America chooses other top leaders

In addition to winning the Presidency, Republicans took control of the Senate (one half of Congress, the branch of government that makes laws) in the November 5 election. Many races for the House of Representatives (the other half of Congress) had not been decided when *The Week Junior* went to press at 9 a.m. on November 6.

What happened in the US Senate?

Before the election, Democrats controlled the Senate, with 51 lawmakers voting with them and 49 voting with Republicans. The Democratic majority meant they could confirm President Joe Biden's appointees and decide which bills to vote on. At press time, Republicans had won enough of the 34 races, including seats in West Virginia and Ohio that had previously been held by Democrats, to gain control of the Senate. On the Democratic side, New Jersey elected the country's first Korean American senator, Andy Kim. In another first, two Black women will serve in the Senate at the same time: Democrats Lisa Blunt Rochester of Delaware and Angela Alsobrooks of Maryland.

What happened in the US House?

All 435 seats were up for reelection. Before November 5, Republicans held more seats and controlled the chamber. At press time, Republicans had won 198 seats and Democrats had won 180, with more than 50 races yet to be called. The party that holds the most seats will appoint the Speaker of the House, the chamber's top leader and the next person in line for President after the Vice President.

What happened in state races?

Races for governor took place in 11 states. Eight Republicans and two Democrats won those offices, and one race hadn't been decided at press time. Ten states voted on whether to give women the right to end a pregnancy, and those measures passed in seven states, including Arizona, Missouri, and Montana, and failed in Florida, South Dakota, and Nebraska.

What will happen next?

The winners in the Senate and the House will be sworn in on January 3, 2025. Governors will begin to take office as well. Alsobrooks, Maryland's newly elected senator, called for unity. "Divided as we may feel, in America, I still believe there is no us against them," she said. "There's only us."

WORD OF THE WEEK

VOTE

The word "vote" is based on the Latin *votum*, a "wish." It is a relative of the word "vow," which means to promise something. By the end of the Middle Ages, "vote" was used to describe the expression of an opinion or preference. When we vote in a political election, we are formally choosing the candidate we wish to win.

THE WEEK IN HISTORY

November 5, 1944

Franklin D. Roosevelt wins fourth term

On November 5, 1944, Franklin D. Roosevelt won a fourth term as President, after having first been elected in 1932. Prior to Roosevelt, Presidents had followed a tradition of serving a maximum of two terms. Roosevelt is the only President to have served more than two. In 1951, an amendment (change) was made to the Constitution (highest law in the US) limiting Presidents to two terms.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Clocks were turned back.

Daylight saving time ends in US

Millions of Americans turned their clocks back by one hour when daylight saving time (DST) ended at 2 a.m. on November 3. Every US state except Hawaii and most of Arizona participates in DST. The change will usher in more daylight in the morning and earlier sunsets in the evening. DST will resume on March 9, 2025, when clocks will go forward by an hour. While digital clocks automatically adjust to DST, other clocks must be reset manually.

The Wild Robot

Robot film has huge success

The Wild Robot, a movie based on the award-winning children's book of the same title by Peter Brown, has become one of the 100 highest-grossing sci-fi films of all time in the US. Since its release on September 27, it has earned about $121 million domestically and $269 million globally. The movie tells the story of Roz, a robot who lands on a deserted island and tries to make friends.

Holiday tree is selected

The tree

A 74-foot-tall Norway spruce tree located in West Stockbridge, Massachusetts, will be the 2024 Rockefeller Center Christmas tree. Once the 11-ton tree is cut down, a new tree will be planted in its place. When it arrives in New York City, it will be decorated with more than 50,000 lights. The lighting ceremony will air on NBC on December 4.

NATIONAL PASTIME
Surveys have shown that baseball is the most popular sport in Japan.

Players display the vintage baseball mitts they used in the game.

Baseball games honor Japanese Americans

On October 26, Japanese Americans gathered at Manzanar National Historic Site in California for the first baseball games to be played there since World War II (1939–1945). The games were a tribute to the resiliency of Japanese Americans who faced great hardships during the war.

When the US entered the war in 1941, it joined the Allied forces in their effort to defeat the Axis powers, which included Japan. At that time, about 120,000 people of Japanese descent lived in the US, mostly on the West Coast. Due to suspicion and racism, the US government forced nearly all of them to relocate to 10 concentration camps, including one at Manzanar. People in the camps lived in harsh conditions and were surrounded by armed guards.

To lift spirits and regain a feeling of normalcy, prisoners created baseball leagues. At Manzanar, there were more than 100 baseball and softball teams, which operated until the end of the war when the camps were closed and the prisoners were released.

A sign at the entrance of the site

Manzanar was declared a national historic site in 1992. Since then, parts of it have been rebuilt for historical purposes. A group of volunteers—led by Dan Kwong, whose mother was imprisoned at Manzanar—took charge of restoring the baseball field. They removed tumbleweeds, installed bases, and built a backstop and bleachers.

The first game on October 26 featured two amateur Japanese American teams from California—the Li'l Tokyo Giants, which Kwong played on, and the Lodi JACL Templars. For the second game, players formed all-star teams and wore old-fashioned uniforms and used 1940s mitts that were borrowed from a Hollywood prop company.

Kwong said he hopes to make the games an annual tradition. "If my mother were here to see this, she would be so happy, and I know she'd be very proud," Kwong told KCRW, a Los Angeles radio station. "All of her family were in Manzanar during the war, and I do like to imagine all of them looking down on us and smiling."

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Alligator strolls across runway at airport in Florida" *CTV news*

MEGHAN COYLE; NPS; GETTY IMAGES (2); UNIVERSAL PICTURES; @ROCKCENTERNYC/X; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (4); LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Around the world

Learning Inuktut

Canada
Indigenous language included

Google Translate has added a language called Inuktut to its translation service. Inuktut is a group of dialects spoken by Inuit people, who are Indigenous people (first to inhabit a place) in northern Canada, Greenland, and Alaska. Nearly 40,000 Inuit people in Canada speak Inuktut. Google's technology will allow users to translate between written Inuktut and other languages, such as English.

São Miguel Island in the Azores

The Azores, Portugal
Law passed to protect ocean

A group of Portuguese islands called the Azores have passed a law to create a huge new marine protected area network. This means that about 110,800 square miles of the Atlantic Ocean will receive special protection against overfishing and tourism. The park, which includes natural habitats for whales, dolphins, seabirds, corals, and other species, will become one of the world's largest areas of protected ocean.

A flooded street

Valencia, Spain
Heavy rain causes devastating floods

Storms that began on October 29 led to Spain's worst flooding in decades. Extremely heavy rain created flash floods, which damaged towns and roads and caused rivers in the eastern province of Valencia to overflow. At least 217 people died. When *The Week Junior* went to press, teams were working to find missing people, deliver supplies, and clean up affected areas.

Vatican City
Church mascot unveiled

The Vatican, the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church, has introduced a new mascot. Luce, meaning "light" in Italian, features Catholic symbols and was influenced by Japanese culture. Designer Simone Legno created her and three friends, Fe, Xin, and Sky, for the Church's jubilee year (a special year of forgiveness) in 2025.

Luce

Stellenbosch, South Africa
Solar-powered motorcycle

A motorcycle has completed a 3,700-mile journey from Kenya to South Africa, running only on solar power (energy generated using sunlight). During the 17-day trip, the electric motorcycle did not recharge its batteries at conventional charging stations. Instead, a second vehicle drove ahead of the bike and used a solar panel to charge extra batteries, which were swapped onto the electric bike as needed.

The motorcycle

EFE; GETTY IMAGES (4); MARTA EISMONT; ROAM; ALAMY (2); SHUTTERSTOCK

Around the world

The museum

Warsaw, Poland
Art museum opens

The Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw has opened at a new permanent home after years of moving between different buildings. The building, designed by American architect Thomas Phifer, can hold up to 2,500 exhibits. Although the full collection won't open until February 21, nine installations by female artists are now on display.

The astronauts

Jiuquan, China
New space station crew blasts off

A group of astronauts has successfully launched from Jiuquan to China's Tiangong space station. The three-person Shenzhou 19 crew includes commander Cai Xuzhe and two first-time astronauts: Song Lingdong and Wang Haoze, the country's first female spaceflight engineer. On November 1, they took over the station from the Shenzhou 18 crew, who returned to China two days later. The new team will stay aboard for about six months.

Mount Fuji

Honshu, Japan
Still no snow on Mount Fuji

Mount Fuji has reached its longest time on record without any snow. Usually snow starts forming on the top of Japan's highest mountain in early October, but this year the country had an extremely hot summer and the weather stayed warm through the fall. No snow had appeared on the mountain by the first week of November, the latest date without snowfall in at least 130 years. The previous record was October 26.

Lahore, Pakistan
Most polluted city

On October 28, Lahore was named the most polluted city in the world. The city's air quality reached its worst level of all time due to emissions from cars and factories and smoke caused by farmers burning leftover crops. On November 4, local elementary schools were closed for a week because of the pollution. In some parts of Pakistan, children have been told not to participate in outdoor activities until January 2025.

Lahore

Cassius

Queensland, Australia
Remembering Cassius the crocodile

Cassius, the world's largest crocodile in captivity, has died. The saltwater crocodile lived at Marineland Melanesia, a wildlife sanctuary on an island off the coast of Queensland. Cassius was nearly 18 feet long, weighed about one ton, and was thought to be at least 110 years old. "He was more than just a crocodile," said the sanctuary. "He was a cherished member of our family."

Should you go to school if you're sick?

Education is important, but should you share your sniffles with your classmates?

What you need to know

- **The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, the top US health agency) recommends that kids with symptoms including fever, rash, or vomiting stay home from school.**
- **The CDC also says it's expected for some illnesses to spread in school, and kids who are feeling well enough to participate can go back to class.**
- **A 2022 survey found that more than two thirds of children missed at least one day of school because they were sick or injured.**

When you're feeling under the weather, it can be hard to drag yourself out of bed, go to school, and try to concentrate in class. Maybe you have a super-stuffy nose or a cough that kept you up overnight. It would be easier to stay home, but some people think it's better to get back to class as soon as you feel up to it. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, more kids are absent from school than ever, and educators say it's not good for students to miss out on too much learning or time with peers. But other people say it's not fair for other kids to be exposed to someone who is blowing their nose or coughing. What do you think? Should you go to school if you're sick?

Yes—it's not necessary to stay home

Recovering from a serious illness like the flu is one thing, but staying out of school for every cough or sniffle is another. Children get about five to eight colds per year, which would mean missing a lot of class time if they didn't go to school. Falling behind is stressful, and losing social time with classmates can make kids sad. The CDC advises balancing the risk of spreading germs with a child's mental and emotional well-being. That means going back to school as soon as you can. And being exposed to germs can actually be good for us because it boosts our resistance to illness. That's necessary for a healthy immune system.

No—it's not fair to others

It's common sense: If you don't feel well, you need to rest. Even if you're starting to improve, you can relapse if you push yourself too much. And if you're not feeling great, you're going to have a hard time paying attention and learning, so what's the point of going to school, especially if being there puts other people at risk? If you're sneezing or coughing in class, you're disturbing teachers and other students and spreading your germs. And it's not just in the classroom—it's also in the halls, lunchroom, and auditorium. There's no way for other people to avoid your germs, and if they get sick, they'll have to miss school too. That's not fair!

YES Three reasons you should go to school if you're sick

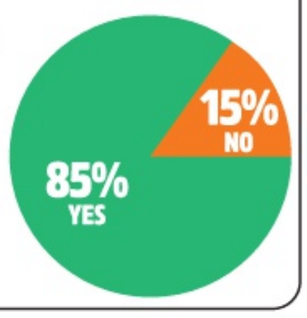
1. **Coughs and colds are part of life. Kids can't stay home every time they feel unwell.**
2. **Missing too much school can make kids fall behind academically and can be hard on their mental and emotional well-being.**
3. **Being exposed to germs is necessary for developing a healthy, strong immune system.**

NO Three reasons you should not go to school if you're sick

1. **A cough or cold might not be serious, but you still need rest to feel better. Otherwise, it takes longer to get well.**
2. **It's difficult to concentrate in class when you're not feeling well, so you're not going to learn much anyway.**
3. **If you spread your germs, you'll cause other kids to miss school, which isn't fair to them.**

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked you if the ISS should be saved. You felt strongly that the science lab in the sky is a vital piece of history that's important to preserve.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote YES if you think you should go to school when you're sick or NO if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

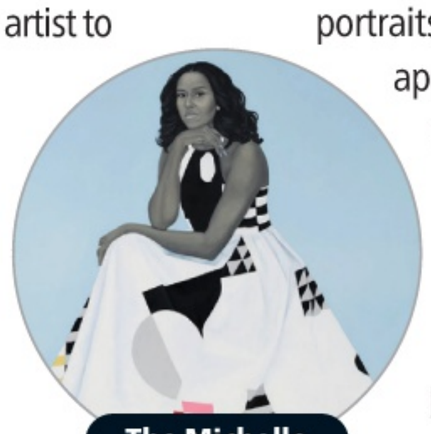
The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.

GETTY IMAGES

Breaking art barriers

Artist Amy Sherald will have a historic exhibit in the nation's capital.

In 2017, artist Amy Sherald rose to national fame after First Lady Michelle Obama selected her to paint her official portrait. A portrait commission by a First Lady is a major achievement for any artist, but Sherald was also the first Black artist to be selected for the honor. Next year, she will make history again as the first Black contemporary artist to be featured in a solo exhibition at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery in Washington, DC. *Amy Sherald: American Sublime* will run from September 2025 to February 2026.



The Michelle Obama portrait

Growing up in Columbus, Georgia, Sherald, age 51, always wanted to be an artist. She earned a degree in painting from Clark Atlanta University in Georgia. Into her late 30s, she worked as a waitress to earn money while painting on the side.

Sherald's art is characterized by vibrant colors and a style of painting skin tones in shades of gray. This approach made her painting of Michelle Obama stand out from past formal First Lady portraits. Sherald has said she approaches her work this way in order to shift the focus from a subject's racial identity to their expressiveness and emotions.

American Sublime will be the largest exhibition of Sherald's art to date. More than 50 of her works will be displayed, including the Obama portrait.

When Sherald reflects on her work, she often emphasizes the importance of representing Black Americans with humanity. "I have this deep belief that images can change the world," she said. "It's a beautiful way to tell a story."

Amy Sherald

ART HISTORY
The National Portrait Gallery was founded by Congress in Washington, DC, in 1962.

A magical career

Hank Ameen, age 92, is celebrating being the Walt Disney Company's longest-serving employee. He has spent 62 years working at Disneyland in California. Starting in 1958, he spent a few summers as a Jungle Cruise ride operator. He then went on to have a 35-year career as a firefighter while also working to ensure the safety of Disneyland's fireworks displays on his days off. He said he feels he is "protecting the magic" of the resort and has no plans to retire. "As long as I can smile and laugh, I'm going to be here," he said.

Hank Ameen

Peyton Houston

Excellence in sports

Peyton "Pop" Houston, a sophomore quarterback for Evangel Christian Academy in Shreveport, Louisiana, entered the high school sports record book in a game on October 11. That night, he threw a record-breaking 817 passing yards in a game against Captain Shreve. His team lost, 77–76, in overtime, but Houston completed 53 of 68 passes for eight touchdowns. He is the first high school quarterback in the country to throw for more than 800 yards in a single game, beating a previous record of 787 set in 2015. His coach called the night a "once in a lifetime" experience.

OVERHEARD

"When young people understand the problem, and you empower them to take action, they are changing the world."

World-famous conservationist Jane Goodall, age 90, on her new "Vote for Nature" campaign, a global initiative to encourage leaders to prioritize environmental protection

GETTY IMAGES (2); COURTESY THE SMITHSONIAN'S NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY; DISNEY; COURTESY THE HOUSTON FAMILY

BUILT STRONG
The outside of a bird's beak is made from keratin, the same substance found in human hair and nails.

A pair of Laysan albatrosses

Bill-tip organs in action

Birds use bill-tip organs for many different purposes. Parrots use it to help them handle objects with their beaks. For ducks, it's used to detect food floating in water. For kiwis and ibises, it helps them sense vibrations in the ground that could come from prey, such as worms.

An ibis

Seabirds sense with their beaks

Researchers have found that seabirds, including albatrosses and penguins, have a very sensitive part of their beak called a "bill-tip organ." Some other birds are known to use this organ (see box at top right), but this is the first time it has been found in seabirds. Experts think it might help the birds find food.

To find out if the birds had this feature in their beaks, researchers from the UK and South Africa studied 361 modern seabird species. The team examined the birds' beaks to study their structure and find out how they were connected to the animals' nerves (bundles of fibers that carry information to and from the brain). The scientists found that both albatrosses and penguins have bill-tip organs in their beaks. Seabirds were not known to search for food using their sense of touch, so the researchers were surprised.

Ostriches don't use the bill-tip organ.

It's possible that this could be a body function left over from an ancient ancestor that is no longer needed or used by modern birds. This is already the case for emus and ostriches, which have a bill-tip organ but don't use it.

Scientists now need to do more studies on the birds' behavior to understand what they use the bill-tip organ for. This could help them learn why some species have developed the organ. Lead researcher Carla du Toit said, "It represents an important stepping stone in understanding how birds evolved."

The research could also help protect albatrosses in the wild, since more than half of albatross species are threatened with extinction. One big threat to these birds is "longline" fishing. In this type of fishing, long lines are trailed behind a boat to catch fish, and the albatrosses sometimes get tangled in them.

Researchers think that if they can learn more about how albatrosses get their food, humans might be better able to protect the birds in the future. For example, if albatrosses use their bill-tip organ to detect vibrations caused by prey, a vibrating device could be added to longlines to prevent the birds from going near the fishing boat.

PLACE OF THE WEEK

Guadalupe Mountains National Park, Texas

The Guadalupe Mountains rise more than 3,000 feet from the Chihuahuan desert. Guadalupe Peak, the tallest natural point in Texas, reaches 8,751 feet and has a 1,000-foot limestone cliff named El Capitan. The park also contains an incredibly well-preserved fossil of an ancient marine reef. In spite of the desert landscape, woodlands can be found in the park, which is also home to thousands of plants, including wildflowers, ferns, yuccas, oak and pine trees, and traditional desert features like cacti. Mule deer, mountain lions, and rattlesnakes also live here.

A mule deer

POWERED BY WATER
Octopuses swim by sucking in water and then shooting it out so they blast off in the opposite direction.

Octopuses and fish can hunt as a team.

Ocean animals work together

Octopuses usually like to spend their time alone, but researchers have spotted them teaming up with fish to hunt for food.

A team from the Max Planck Institute of Animal Behavior in Germany collected 120 hours of video footage in the Red Sea. They saw 13 examples of group hunts involving different species, including an octopus and several types of fish. They were hunting for smaller fish and shellfish to eat.

The creatures took turns to lead the hunting party. Goatfish seemed to decide where the group hunted, while octopuses sometimes told the group to stop moving by staying still. The study showed that the octopuses catch more prey when they're working in a team with the fish.

The groups didn't always get along well, however. Some fish appeared to follow the group without helping them hunt, and the octopuses were seen "punching" those fish with their arms—possibly to punish the unhelpful fish or get them to leave. Scientists say more research is needed to find out how the relationships within the group change in different environments.

Animal of the week

Fennec fox

Four fennec fox cubs were born at the Niabi Zoo in Illinois as part of a breeding program. Fennec foxes are the world's smallest fox species. They are known for their large ears, which release heat and help them find prey hidden underground.

- **LIFE SPAN:** 10 years, or longer in human care
- **HABITAT:** Deserts of North Africa and Arabia
- **SIZE:** 14 to 16 inches, not including the tail
- **DIET:** Small animals, insects, and some plants
- **FUN FACT:** Fur on the soles of their feet protects them from the hot desert sand.

Good week / Bad week

Australia

Australia announced a plan to expand the Heard Island and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve to four times its current size. This means the country will protect 52% of its ocean territory, more than any other nation in the world.

England

The amount of protected natural land in England stands at 2.93%, down from last year's 3.11%, according to a new report. Only 9.92% of the sea is protected, far below the goal of conserving 30% of land and sea by 2030.

ASK AN EXPERT

"Why do cats' tails go up when they're happy?"

Hadley, 10, Kentucky

Dr. Gabrielle Fadl
Veterinarian,
Bond Vet

A cat's tail is an indicator of its emotions. When the tail goes up, it generally means the cat is feeling happy, confident, and content. This posture can also indicate that the cat is greeting someone it likes. The raised tail is a friendly gesture, showing that the cat feels safe.

Do you have a question for an animal expert? Send it to *hello@theweekjunior.com*. Find out more about Bond Vet at bondvet.com.

GETTY IMAGES (5); ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (4); ALAMY

Our loyal and furry

Dogs were the first animals to be domesticated by people.

For many thousands of years, dogs have been humans' steady companions. They now rank as the most popular pet in the US.

A prehistoric cave drawing

Starting from wolves

Today's household dogs belong to the species Canis lupus familiaris. They are part of the Canid family, a group that includes foxes, wolves, and jackals. Modern-day dogs evolved (changed very slowly over time) from wolves tens of thousands of years ago. The oldest known fossil coming from a domestic dog is about 14,200 years old. Dogs may have first been drawn to humans while looking for leftover food. Prehistoric dogs would have been helpful hunting partners for humans, and later, they would have been useful for herding livestock.

A Great Dane and a Chihuahua

The special traits of dogs

Like their wolf ancestors, dogs are pack animals, meaning they like to be around other dogs or people. They often express their affection for humans by licking them or leaning on them. Dogs are known for their sense of smell, which may be up to 100,000 times stronger than a human's. Dogs also have a better sense of hearing than humans do. They have blurry vision, however, and difficulty seeing certain colors. Today, there are about 400 recognized dog breeds in the world, ranging from tiny toy dogs like Chihuahuas to large working dogs like Great Danes.

FUN FACT
In the US, the most common dog breed is the French bulldog, followed by the Labrador retriever and golden retriever.

Nearly 66 million US households have a dog.

Working dogs and their jobs

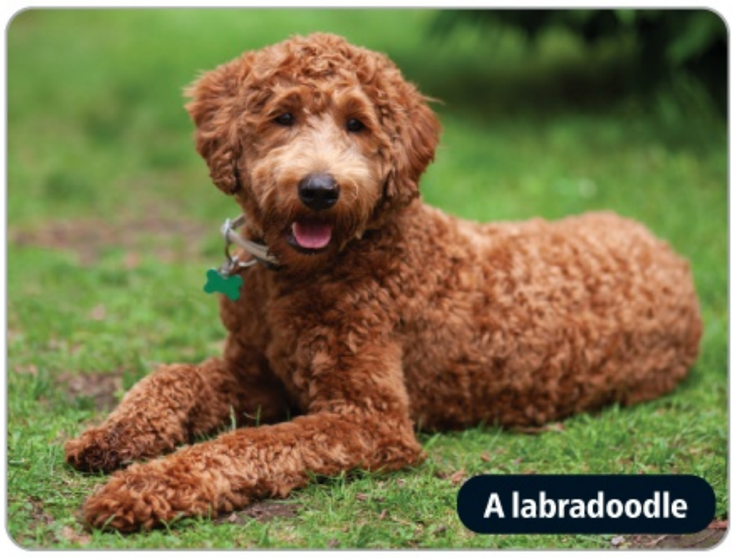
From their earliest days as hunting partners, dogs have helped humans function. Here are three types of dogs that are trained to serve in important jobs.

Guide dogs

Also called service dogs, these dogs are trained to help people with disabilities. For instance, seeing-eye dogs help people who are vision-impaired get around safely. Medical-alert dogs comfort people who are having a seizure.

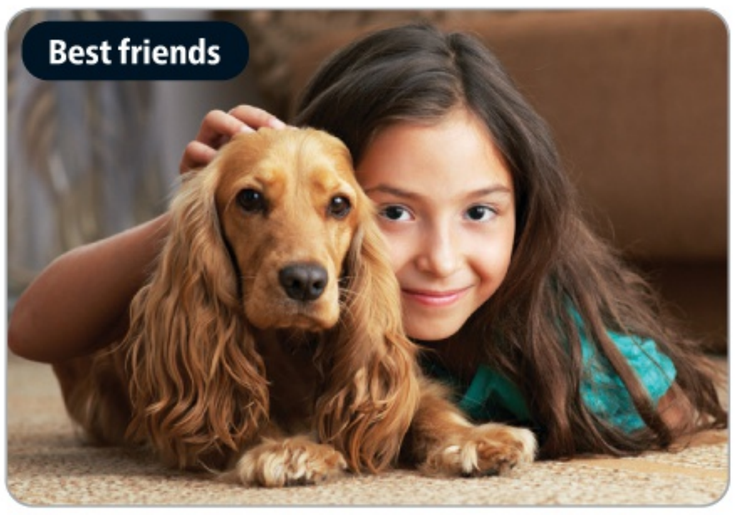
GETTY IMAGES (8); SHUTTERSTOCK

best friends


A labradoodle

Many shapes and sizes

Some of the oldest known dog breeds are the saluki, Alaskan malamute, and Siberian husky, but most dog breeds emerged in about the past 200 years. Distinctive types of dogs develop because humans selectively breed the animals for certain traits they prefer. Labrador retrievers were bred as hunting dogs, for example. Dachshunds' long, short shape helped them burrow underground to chase after badgers, while greyhounds were bred for speed. However, there are also many dogs that are a mix of different breeds, including cross breeds like the labradoodle, which has become popular across the US in recent years. The large majority of dogs in animal shelters are mixed breeds.


Best friends

Companions for humans

Dogs have become one of the most popular pets in the world and have been called "man's best friend" because of their close relationship with people. Recent surveys have found that a large majority of dog owners regard their canine companions as members of their family. When people and dogs stare into each other's eyes, both humans and dogs release a chemical associated with feelings of love and trust. Furthermore, recent studies have found that spending even 10 minutes with a therapy dog can reduce pain and improve mental health in hospital patients. Owning a dog provides physical assistance, too, by encouraging owners to be active. To find out more about how dogs help humans, see the box at left.

Therapy dogs

People in stressful situations may get emotional support from therapy dogs. The dogs often visit hospitals to comfort both patients and workers. Therapy dogs also visit schools, helping students focus or even learn. They also help people in nursing homes and airports.

Search dogs

Dogs' powerful sense of smell makes them ideal for finding survivors in search-and-rescue operations, such as after a natural disaster. These dogs, which receive extensive training, can also follow the scent of someone who may be lost.

DID YOU KNOW?
The name Mount Everest is English, but the mountain is called Chomolungma in Tibetan and Sagarmatha in Nepali.

The peak of Mount Everest above the clouds

Mount Everest is growing taller

With its summit (highest point) standing at an incredible 29,032 feet, Mount Everest is the world's highest mountain above sea level. Now it's getting even taller, thanks to a growth spurt caused by a nearby river, according to a new study.

Mount Everest sits on the border of Nepal and Tibet in the Himalayan mountain range. The huge landmark is already about 800 feet taller than the other peaks in the region and continues to grow every year by about .079 inches. That's about the width of a strand of spaghetti, according to *The New York Times*. It might not seem like much, but it adds up over time.

The Arun River in Nepal

A team of scientists set out to understand how Everest got so tall in the first place and what causes its ongoing growth. Using computer modeling, they studied how the waterways in the region had changed in the past. They found that the Arun River, which runs along the Himalayas in Everest's shadow, played an especially important role in Everest's development.

About 89,000 years ago, the team found, a massive river system called the Kosi merged with the Arun and formed one large waterway. The massive, powerful river eroded (gradually wore away) billions of tons of rock and soil, creating a deep channel called a gorge.

Over time, as the erosion continued and the material that makes up the land was carried away, Earth's crust became lighter in that area. The lighter crust floated more easily on top of Earth's mantle (layer below the crust), allowing the mantle to push the crust upward and causing Everest to grow. The Arun River has made Everest between 49 and 164 feet taller than it would otherwise be, the scientists said.

Adam Smith, one of the study's authors, told BBC News, "It's a bit like throwing a load of cargo off a ship. The ship becomes lighter and so floats a little higher. Similarly, when the crust becomes lighter, it can float a little higher."

Just as the mountain has gotten taller, however, it could also get shorter, according to the research team. Study author Jin-Gen Dai said, "Although mountains may appear to stand still from the perspective of a human lifetime, they are in fact constantly in motion."

Mountains that top the charts

Mount Elbrus

The 10 highest peaks in the world are in Asia, and nine of them—including Mount Everest—are in the Himalayan mountain range. The second-tallest mountain in the world is K2, which is located in the Karakoram mountain range between China and Pakistan.

On other continents, the tallest mountains include Russia's Mount Elbrus, which is the highest peak in Europe at 18,510 feet. In Africa, Mount Kilimanjaro rises 19,340 feet high. North America's Mount Denali is 18,000 feet above sea level, while in South America, Mount Aconcagua is 22,831 feet high. And in Antarctica, Vinson Massif is 16,050 feet. In Australia, Mount Kosciuszko's peak is 7,310 feet high.

Earth has a temporary second moon

Earth has temporarily gained what some people are calling a "second moon," which is expected to stay in our planet's orbit for about two months.

A moon is defined as an object that orbits a planet. In this case, Earth's new moon is an asteroid (small, rocky object that flies around the Sun) called 2024 PT5. Compared with Earth's main Moon, which is 2,159.2 miles across, 2024 PT5 is about 33 feet wide. It is too small and dim to be spotted with the human eye but may be visible through a professional telescope.

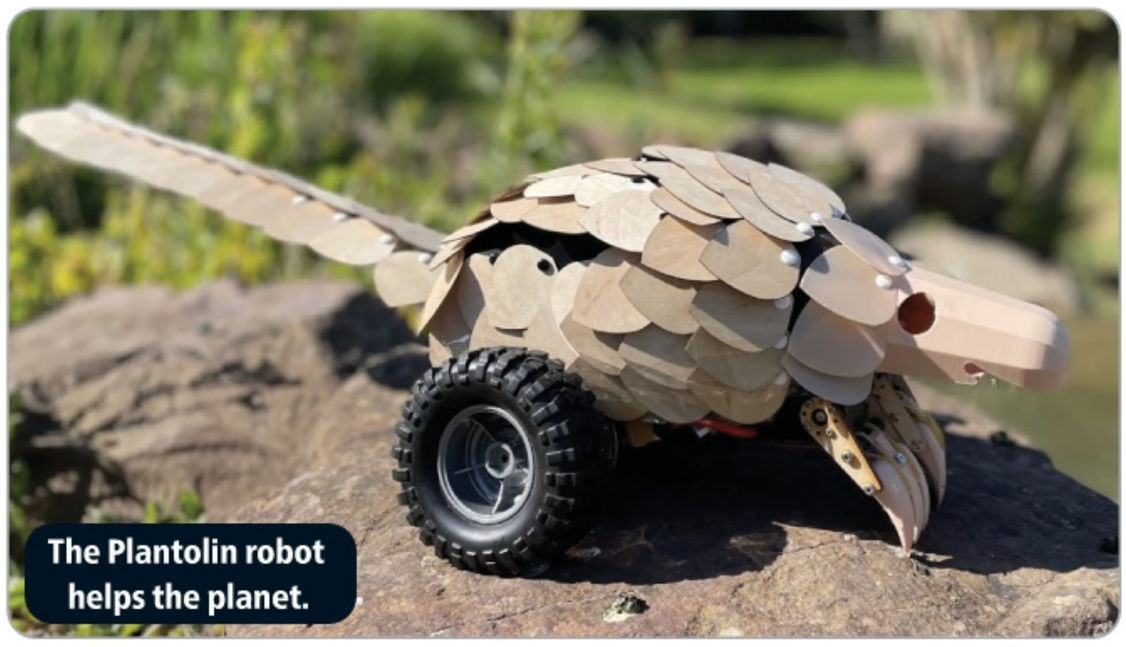
An object like this in Earth's orbit is known as a "mini-moon." Scientists first spotted 2024 PT5 in the summer. They studied its path and determined that it would travel close enough to Earth to get pulled in by our planet's gravity. While our regular Moon has been near our planet for about 4 billion years, the asteroid is expected to break free from Earth's orbit on November 25.

After that, 2024 PT5 will continue its journey around the Sun. That most likely won't be the last we see of it, however. Researchers say it will fly past Earth again in January 2025 and once more in 2055.

Mini-moons are a common occurrence, scientists said. They appear every year and are often asteroids. One that was spotted in 2020, however, turned out to be space junk from a rocket booster launched in the 1960s.

SPACE OBJECTS
According to NASA, the US space agency, there are 1,416,571 known asteroids in our solar system.

An artist's rendering of an asteroid orbiting Earth


The Plantolin robot helps the planet.

Pangolin robot plants trees

A new tree-planting robot looks and acts like a pangolin, a scaly mammal known for its digging skills. The robot digs holes then drops "seed bombs" into them. The packets contain soil and yew tree seeds.

The robot, called Plantolin, won the Natural Robotics Contest. Run by the University of Surrey in the UK, the contest asks people to submit robotic ideas that can help the planet. The Plantolin was created by a California high school student named Dorothy.

Dorothy based her design on African ground pangolins, which use their hind legs to walk and their tails and front legs for balance. Experts at the university built a working model with motorized wheels for hind legs and claws for digging for front limbs.

Once the Plantolin has scooped out dirt, a conveyor belt inside it moves the seed bomb into position. The Plantolin rolls over the hole and drops the seed packet into it.

AMAZING INVENTION

A drum set that keeps it quiet

The V-Drums Quiet Design kit

Drummers can practice at home without disturbing others, thanks to a new, quieter electronic drum set. The V-Drums Quiet Design kit is made by the company Roland, which said it reduces "in-room noise"—the sound of strikes and thumps from drumsticks and pedals hitting the instrument—to the level of a regular conversation.

V-Drums use padding, honeycomb rubber, mesh, and air vents to reduce the in-room volume by up to 75%. Drummers can listen to themselves play on headphones so the music itself remains silent to other people.

GETTY IMAGES; UNIVERSITY OF SURREY; ROLAND V DRUMS; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES; SHUTTERSTOCK; ALAMY

Reader photos of the week

Mirror image
This photo of a lake in Canada was taken by Mina, 12, of New York.

Fabulous fungi
Martin, 9, of Missouri snapped this photo of mushrooms on a tree.

ANANYA; LILLY; LOUIS; LYVIA; MARTIN; MINA

Reader photos of the week

Bugging out
Lyvia, 11, of North Carolina captured this picture of a grasshopper.

Winging it
Lilly, 14, of Colorado took this photograph of a bird in flight.

Wow factor
Ananya, 12, of California took this underwater shot of jellyfish.

Pretty in pink
Louis, 9, of Washington shot this image of a flower in a garden.

FUN FACT
For the fifth season in a row, a player named Will Smith has been on the winning World Series team.

The Los Angeles Dodgers

Team history

The Dodgers were formed in 1890 and used to play in Brooklyn, New York. One of their early nicknames was the Bridegrooms. They became known as the Brooklyn Trolley Dodgers in 1896 before shortening the name. The team moved to Los Angeles in 1958.

LA Dodgers win the World Series

On October 30, the Los Angeles Dodgers won Major League Baseball's World Series for the eighth time in the franchise's history. They beat the New York Yankees, 4–1, in a best-of-seven series. The last time the Dodgers were the champions was in 2020.

During the regular season, the Dodgers were the best team in the National League (NL) and the Yankees were the best in the American League (AL). Each team also had a player who hit more than 50 home runs: the Dodgers' Shohei Ohtani and the Yankees' Aaron Judge. It is rare to have a World Series between the two number one teams, but a Dodgers versus Yankees World Series is nothing new. It was the 12th time they played each other for the championship, which is more than any other pair of teams.

Anthony Volpe

The first two games were played at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles, California. Game 1 went to extra innings, and the Yankees took a one-run lead in the top of the 10th. In the bottom of that inning, Dodgers first baseman Freddie Freeman hit a grand slam to give his team a 6–3 win. It was the first World Series walk-off grand slam in baseball history. The Dodgers also won Game 2.

The action then moved to Yankee Stadium in the Bronx, New York. The Dodgers won Game 3, which included a two-run homer by Freeman in the first inning. To avoid a sweep, Game 4 was a must-win for the Yankees and their offense delivered. They won, 11–4, with shortstop and New York City native Anthony Volpe leading the way with a grand slam in the third inning.

In Game 5, the Yankees looked like they might win again. They had their top pitcher, Gerrit Cole, on the mound, and they led, 5–0, through four innings. After Yankees players committed two errors in the top of the fifth, the Dodgers tied the game. New York took a one-run lead in the sixth and held it until the top of the eighth, when the Dodgers took a 7–6 lead they never gave up.

Freeman was named the 2024 World Series Most Valuable Player. In the five games, he drove in 12 runs, tying a World Series record set in 1960. He was also the second player in history to hit a home run in the first four games of a World Series.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

NEW YORK CITY MARATHON

There were two first-time winners at New York City's 26.2-mile road race on November 3: Dutch runner Abdi Nageeye in the men's race and Kenya's Sheila Chepkirui in the women's race. Nageeye is the first male winner in 31 major marathons who is not from Kenya or Ethiopia. Also for the first time, two Americans won the men's and women's wheelchair races: Daniel Romanchuk and Susannah Scaroni.

Susannah Scaroni (center) with third-place finisher Manuela Schar (left) and second-place finisher Tatyana McFadden (right)

MEN'S BASKETBALL

With a 105–92 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers on November 3, the Oklahoma City Thunder boosted their NBA record to 6–0, their best start ever.

GOLF

On November 3, American Nelly Korda won her first LPGA (Ladies Professional Golf Association) Player of the Year award. Korda is the world's top-ranked women's golfer, and she has won six tournaments this year, including one major.

HOT SEATS
This season, for the first time ever, more than 2 million people attended NWSL regular-season matches.

The Bay FC and Houston Dash game on November 2

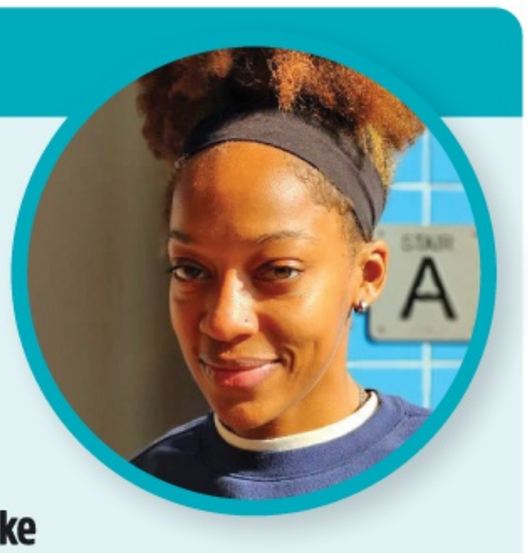
NWSL wraps regular season

On November 3, the 2024 NWSL (National Women's Soccer League) regular season came to an exciting end. Heading into Decision Weekend, six teams (including the Orlando Pride, the best team this season) had already clinched playoff spots, but many matches were still important. Three teams were competing for the final two postseason openings, and much of the playoff seeding was still undetermined.

One crucial match on November 1 was between the Portland Thorns and Angel City FC. The Thorns, who needed to win or tie to make the playoffs, came through with a 3–0 victory. The team has now made the postseason eight times in a row, an NWSL record. The same day, NJ/NY Gotham FC beat the Utah Royals, FC, 4–1. Gotham and the Washington Spirit were both in contention to earn the number two seed—but the next day, the Spirit beat the North Carolina Courage, 1–0, and bumped Gotham to number three because of a tie-break advantage. In additional action on November 2, Bay FC won a thrilling 3–2 contest over the Houston Dash and clinched an open postseason spot. Bay FC, which was new to the league this season, had 11 wins in all, a new record for most wins by an NWSL expansion team.

The final postseason spot went to the Chicago Red Stars. Despite a 3–1 loss to the Kansas City Current on the final day of matches, the Red Stars earned a playoff berth after Racing Louisville FC lost to San Diego, 3–1. Meanwhile, the Current finished their regular season with a total of 57 goals, a new NWSL record. The playoff quarterfinals were set to begin on November 8.

COACH OF THE WEEK



Coach's Name: **Amber Cherry**

Team: **Chargers (volleyball)**

"Coach Cherry is the best coach I have ever worked with! She is extremely passionate and committed to teaching volleyball and never hesitates to support me or my teammates. She has helped me in so many ways with skills like passing, hitting, and serving. The drills I first thought were boring have actually improved my technique and made me a better volleyball player. The best thing about Coach, though, is her competitive spirit!" Katie, 13, New York

To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to *hello@theweekjunior.com*. Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

KJ Trujillo

AGE: 24 SPORT: FOOTBALL
TEAM: UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

Taking the field My dad introduced me to football when I was about 4 years old. He had been a football player in high school. I went through a lot during my childhood, and football was always an escape for me, a place where I could feel free and just have fun. When I started realizing I was good at it, I was motivated to keep playing.

Pro idols I'm a big Pittsburgh Steelers fan. Growing up, I always watched Troy Polamalu and Ryan Clark.

Hard work There's not really a day that I'm not doing something to try to get better or prepare for that week or the next one. We watch film every day for about 40 minutes to an hour. I probably watch another three to four hours on my own during the week, doing game planning and studying opponents.

Keeping calm Our mental strength coach taught me about box breathing, a technique that helps you slow your breathing and heart rate. When my emotions start getting high, it brings me back down. On our off days, I find peace in nature.

Main focus I've always understood that I'm here to play football, but my top priority is getting a degree. I've never let football overshadow school.

Big goals I plan on training for a pro day in the spring and seeing if I can get an opportunity to play in a pro football league. Beyond that, I want to be a sports agent so I can stay in the sports world.

Words of wisdom Focus on your own path and don't worry about what people around you have or don't have.

GETTY IMAGES; UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO ATHLETICS; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (4)

WOW!
Composer John Williams was nominated for an Oscar at age 91, making him the oldest Oscar nominee ever.

John Williams

The man behind movie music

A new documentary celebrates the life and legacy of famous Hollywood composer John Williams.

Many movie fans may have never seen John Williams, but odds are they know his work. The legendary composer and conductor has created some of the most memorable on screen music, including the theme to *Star Wars* and the suspenseful, two-note *duh-nuh, duh-nuh* from *Jaws*. The new documentary *Music by John Williams* tells his story and highlights his place in movie history. It is now on Disney+.

Williams, age 92, was born and raised in New York. He played piano as a child and later attended the Juilliard School, a top performing arts school. He has received many awards, including the National Medal of Arts (the nation's top honor for the arts) and 26 Grammys (top music award). He also has been nominated for 54 Oscars (top film award)—the most of any living person—and won five.

Steven Spielberg

Williams has composed music for genres that include drama, comedy, and adventure. He often works with filmmaker Steven Spielberg. *Jaws*, *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*, and the Indiana Jones movies are among the 29 films they have made together. He also works a lot with George Lucas, the creator of *Star Wars*.

Music by John Williams was directed by Laurent Bouzereau. He grew up in France, and he told *The Week Junior* that he fell in love with Hollywood movies through Williams' music. He said he wanted to tell the story "of this great man and how much he inspires us." The film has rare, behind-the-scenes footage of the composer in the music studio and on-camera interviews with Williams and filmmakers. Chris Martin of Coldplay and cellist Yo-Yo Ma are among the music stars who discuss how they have been influenced by him.

Bouzereau said that making the film helped him appreciate Williams' never-ending curiosity as a student of music. He hopes it teaches an important life lesson: "You really have to work hard and continuously in order to achieve greatness."

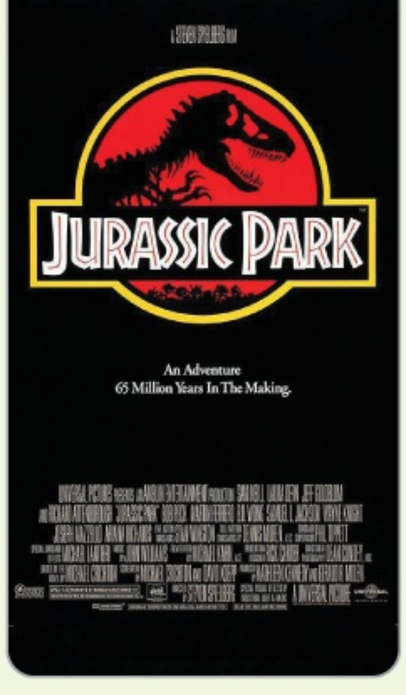
3 films with his music

Home Alone

John Williams was excited to work on this 1990 holiday comedy because he always wanted to write a Christmas song. The result was "Somewhere in My Memory," the title theme.

Jurassic Park

For this 1993 science fiction film about a theme park filled with massive living dinosaurs, Williams decided not to think about the animals as scary monsters. Instead, he composed a score that reflected a sense of awe.



Harry Potter movies

Williams wrote the music for the first three films. In 2016, he led the LA Philharmonic as they performed some of the music at the opening of The Wizarding World of Harry Potter in California.

REBECCA THE RACCOON
In the White House, President Calvin Coolidge's family had a pet raccoon named Rebecca.

Series highlights neurodiversity

An upcoming animated series features characters created to promote acceptance and help kids understand that not everyone's brain works the same way. *Carl the Collector* centers on a young raccoon with autism, a developmental disorder often characterized by challenges with social skills and language. In each episode, he and his friends—some who are neurotypical (having a brain not affected by a disorder or condition) and some who are neurodiverse (having a brain that works differently)—have adventures, try to solve problems, and learn to get along. The show premieres November 14 on PBS Kids.

Zach OHora

The series was created by best-selling illustrator and picture book author Zachariah OHora. He told *The Week Junior* he got the idea for Carl because his kids were attending an inclusion school, which served all types of students. "If kids are exposed at a younger age to the whole spectrum of humanity, it's going to be better for everybody," he said.

One of the special things about Carl is that he likes having collections, such as plushies, balls, and mustaches. His best friend, Sheldon, is a beaver who "helps Carl understand the world—and sometimes he helps the rest of the world understand Carl," OHora said. The friend group also includes Lotta, an artistic fox with autism, and Forrest, a squirrel with ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder).

Many people who worked on the series, including some writers and animators, have autism. *Carl*'s director, Lisa Whittick, whose son is autistic, told *The Week Junior* the show sends a message that autism isn't scary, and that the world is filled with many types of people. "None of them are bad or good—they're just different," she said. "And they all live together in a community."

READER RECOMMENDS

IF *PG (Paramount+, Prime Video)*

"This is a very interesting movie. It is set in a world that has a dimension where everyone's former imaginary friends live. As children grow up, they outgrow their imaginary friends and forget about them, which leaves the imaginary friends with nothing to do. A young girl in New York City named Bea is the main character, and she helps all the imaginary friends find new people to love them. Of course, there are plot twists and her plan doesn't go as expected. The movie was a big reminder for me that I should enjoy my childhood and not be in a hurry to grow up." Saanvi, 12, California

Do you have a film or TV show to recommend to other kids? Send your review to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST

Transformers: EarthSpark
(Netflix) (Paramount+)

This series follows young robots Twitch and Thrash, Transformers born on Earth who live with their adoptive human family, the Maltos. In the new third season, a massive dome divides their town and the robots and humans try to keep people safe and get life back to normal.

Silverback
(PBS.org) (PBS app)

Travel to the Democratic Republic of Congo with award-winning wildlife filmmaker Vianet Djenguet as he helps a 500-pound silverback gorilla adapt to its habitat. Up-close footage reveals challenges facing endangered lowland gorillas and the efforts to ensure their survival.

Young Sheldon
(Max)

All seven seasons of this popular sitcom are now streaming. The series, set in Texas during the late 1980s and early 1990s, centers on young genius Sheldon Cooper and his family. It is a prequel to the sitcom *The Big Bang Theory*, which featured Sheldon as an adult.

FUZZYTOWN PRODUCTIONS (2); PARAMOUNT PICTURES; NICKELODEON; VIANET DJENGUET/OFF THE FENCE; GETTY IMAGES; ON LEFT PAGE: LUCASFILM LTD.; GETTY IMAGES; 20TH CENTURY FOX; UNIVERSAL PICTURES; WARNER BROS. PICTURES

FUN FACT
Luigi is Mario's twin, and his name comes from the Japanese word *ruiji*, which means similarity.

Save a world with Mario and Luigi

Mario & Luigi: Brothership is a new platform role-playing game. It is out now exclusively for the Nintendo Switch.

While Mario has always been the face of Nintendo, he and his brother share the spotlight in the Mario & Luigi series. The first game was released in 2003, and Brothership is the sixth. In this one, Mario and Luigi are teleported to the former continent of Concordia. After the magical Uni-Tree that sat at its center was destroyed, the land fractured into islands that drifted apart. When the brothers arrive, they meet Connie, the caretaker of the Uni-Tree. A new tree has been planted, and it's up to Mario and Luigi to help Connie connect it to every floating island.

Connie has a floating island of her own, Shipshape, and they sail around on it. It has its own lakes and waterfalls but can move surprisingly fast. It also has a cannon that can launch Mario and Luigi onto other islands. Joining them is Snoutlet, a flying piglike creature.

You can tell who in the game is good or evil based on their faces. Connie, Snoutlet, and other nice characters look like electrical sockets, while the enemies look like plugs. In keeping with the electrical theme, the game has a system of power-ups called Battle Plugs.

Concordia's islands have their own features and inhabitants. They include one that is carnival-themed and another that has a city with office workers. Mario and Luigi can move freely in each level, but the game takes on a modified turn-based system for battles. Players choose moves for each brother and can pull off amazing combos called Bros. Moves to get past obstacles and be heroes together.

PODCAST OF THE WEEK

WILD INTEREST

Major podcast platforms

In each episode of this series, curious kids interview experts about a wide range of topics, including solar eclipses, dirt, and Bigfoot. The show also features special guests—such as grandparents—sharing their stories, along with fun jokes and riddles.

WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

CONNECTIONS: SPORTS EDITION

nytimes.com/athletic/connections-sports-edition

The popular *New York Times* game now has a sports-themed version. In the game, players sort 16 words into four groups based on common themes, such as player names or competitions. Every day, there is a new puzzle to solve and four chances to get it right. If it's tough, try teaming up with an adult sports fan.

VIDEO OF THE WEEK

HOW BABY CARROTS WERE BORN

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-BabyCarrots

Did you know that baby carrots sold in bags are just 2-inch pieces of big carrots? The idea came from a California farmer who wanted to save misshapen carrots from being wasted, so he made them smaller—and created a convenient and healthy snack. This video shows how they're formed.

NINTENDO (2); BRAIN BROCCOLI PRODUCTIONS; THE NEW YORK TIMES GAMES; CBS SUNDAY MORNING VIA YOUTUBE

BOOK OF THE WEEK

The Bletchley Riddle

By Ruta Sepetys and Steve Sheinkin

(Viking)

This gripping work of historical fiction takes place in Britain in 1940. Jakob is a math genius who gets recruited by the secret Government Code and Cypher School, located in the village estate of Bletchley Park. Jakob is tasked with deciphering codes that contain details of Nazi Germany's attacks on England during World War II (1939–1945). His work is temporarily sidetracked when his younger sister, Lizzie, arrives. Although the siblings had been told that their mother, who worked at an embassy, died in Poland, Lizzie refuses to believe she is gone. She wants to use the resources at Bletchley Park to prove her theory. Jakob doubts Lizzie at first, but he comes around when puzzling codes and messages begin arriving at their doorstep. The messages lead them to a chilling encounter where they learn their mother's fate. Meanwhile, British troops are counting on Jakob's code-cracking skills to give them an advantage. Although the characters are fictional, many of the places and events in this story are real. It's a page-turner that blends history, humor, and drama, and the chapters alternate between the perspectives of Jakob and Lizzie. *Ages 10–14*

ASK THE AUTHORS

Ruta Sepetys and Steve Sheinkin

We spoke to the authors of the Book of the Week.

What inspired this book?

Ruta: I was intrigued by how the people who worked at Bletchley Park in the UK during World War II had to be so secretive about the codebreaking they were doing to defeat the Nazis.

Did you love history when you were a child?

Steve: Yes, I was given a metal detector as a gift when I was young. I used it to look for treasure, which was my way of connecting with history.

Where would you go if you could time travel?

Ruta: I would travel to the 1940s, when my dad and my grandparents came to the US as refugees from Lithuania.

What advice do you have for aspiring writers?

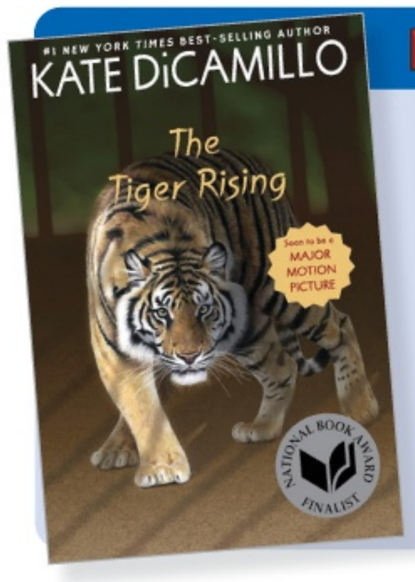
Steve: Write about something that excites you because that excitement will jump off the page for the reader.

Favorite puzzle?

Steve: Online chess puzzles.

Ruta: Spot the difference.

READER RECOMMENDS



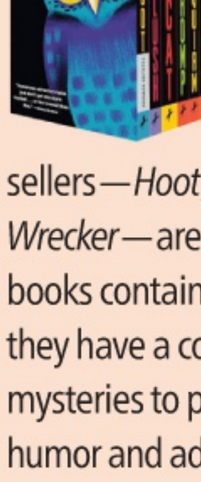
The Tiger Rising *By Kate DiCamillo*

"This story is about Rob, whose mom died of cancer. He and his dad are living in a motel. He is very sad until a new student, Sistine, arrives at school and becomes his friend. He and Sistine discover a beautiful tiger in a cage in the woods. When Rob gets hired to feed the tiger, he gets the keys to the cage. Will he set the tiger free? What I loved about this book is that I couldn't stop reading it." Nell, 9, Massachusetts

Do you have a book to recommend? Send your review to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

4 new boxed sets of amazing books

Read all the books in a top series or by a favorite author with these collections.

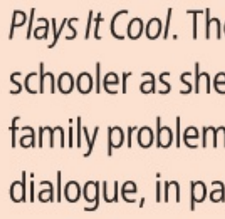


Atlantis Complete Collection

By Kate O'Hearn

(Aladdin)

This set contains the paperback editions of a trilogy: *Escape from Atlantis*, *Return to Atlantis*, and *Secrets of Atlantis*. A girl and her cousin are washed ashore on a mythical island that's brimming with fantastical creatures and dark secrets. *Ages 8–12*



Hiaasen: Six-Book Paperback Set

By Carl Hiaasen

(Yearling)

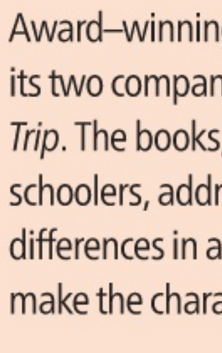
Six of the author's best-sellers—*Hoot*, *Flush*, *Scat*, *Chomp*, *Squirm*, and *Wrecker*—are included in this set. Although the books contain different characters and plots, they have a common theme of kids solving mysteries to protect nature. They are also full of humor and adventure. *Ages 10 and up*

The Merci Suárez Trilogy Boxed Set

By Meg Medina

(Candlewick)

The Newbery Award–winning *Merci Suárez Changes Gears* is packaged with *Merci Suárez Can't Dance* and *Merci Suárez Plays It Cool*. The novels center on a middle schooler as she navigates new classmates, family problems, and friendships. The dialogue, in particular, is fantastic. *Ages 8–12*



New Kid Three-Book Boxed Set

By Jerry Craft

(HarperCollins)

New Kid, the Newbery Award–winning graphic novel, is paired with its two companion books: *Class Act* and *School Trip*. The books, which focus on three middle schoolers, address racism, friendships, and differences in a fresh way. The comic panels make the characters feel real. *Ages 8–12*

BOOKS: COURTESY OF PUBLISHERS; AUTHORS: RACHEL KINNEY, ROB SPRING; GETTY IMAGES

DID YOU KNOW?
In 2023, 20% of people in the US went hiking, making it the nation's most popular outdoor activity.

Get closer to nature

Take advantage of fall weather—and boost your mood—by heading outside.

Autumn is a special time to enjoy the outdoors, when the weather is cool and crisp for absorbing the sights and sounds of nature. Research shows that spending time in a natural setting has many benefits—it can help reduce anxiety and stress, improve concentration and attention, and even lead to better sleep. Here are some ways to get started.

Go for a walk, bike, or hike

The easiest way to get closer to nature is to simply step outside. Gather family or friends and go for a walk or bike ride in your neighborhood or a local park. Besides getting exercise, you'll be stimulating your senses, from seeing a variety of colors in autumn leaves to feeling a breeze blow through the trees. With an adult's help, you can search for free guided hikes from a state park or local nature center. With the days growing shorter, some may offer "night hikes" in late afternoon, when you can spot stars in the sky or hear the sounds of owls, frogs, and other nocturnal animals.

Walk with a friend.

Try birdwatching

November is a great time of year for birdwatching. It's when many bird species take flight on their migratory journeys to warm destinations to the south. You can visit a bird sanctuary in your area or learn more about the birds in your neighborhood. The Merlin Bird ID app is a free bird guide with photos, bird sounds, and maps that can help you identify the bird species you hear or see.

Plant a fall garden

Fall is a good time to plant because it's less hot for plants but the soil is still warm. In parts of the US where the weather is milder, you may be able to plant leafy crops like spinach, broccoli, and kale through December. Speak with your local plant nursery about what you can plant at this time of year in your area. You can also bring nature inside by having potted plants in your home.

Protect nature

Another way to get closer to nature is to show that you care for the environment with the choices you make. Small actions—such as recycling your family's cardboard boxes or walking to nearby destinations instead of catching a ride in a car—help reduce waste and pollution. You could also approach leaders at your school or local government about organizing a community cleanup to keep the outdoors beautiful for everyone.

Snacks for a hike

If you're going on a hike, bring plenty of water and a nutritious snack. Here are three ideas.

Trail mix You can buy trail mix at the store or make your own by combining foods such as dried fruit, nuts, cereal, and small chocolate pieces. Pack your mix in a reusable container or bag.

Muffins Homemade or store-bought muffins keep well on a hike. To make a muffin more filling, you could cut it in half and spread nut butter on it.

Fresh fruit Choose fruit that you can eat whole without having to cut it, and wash it before you go. Good picks include apples, bananas, and oranges.

WARNING! Ask an adult's permission before using the stove.

TASTY TREAT
Chickpea fries are known as panisse in the south of France, where they are a traditional street snack.

Cook up delicious chickpea fries

Ingredients

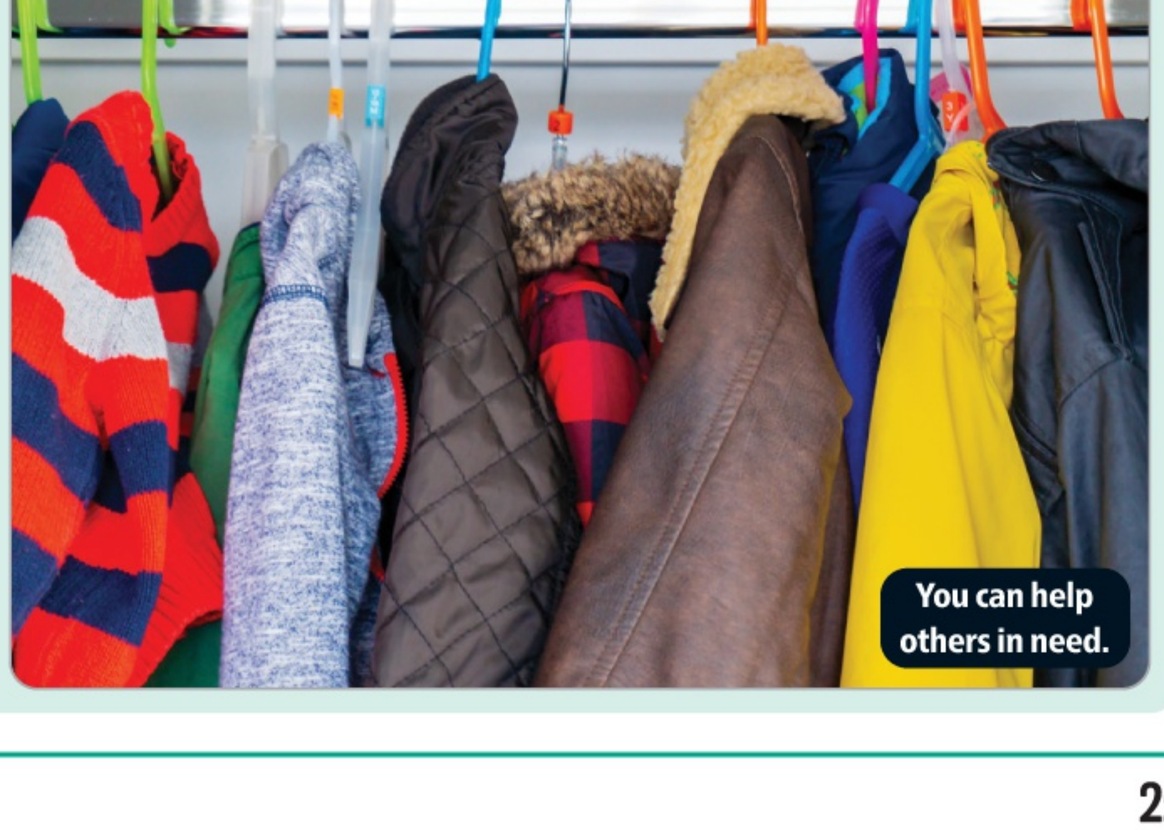
- Olive oil
- 4 cups water
- 2 cups chickpea flour
- 1 teaspoon salt, plus more for seasoning
- Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 1 tablespoon butter
- Dipping sauce, for serving (optional)
- Lemon wedges, for serving (optional)

Instructions

1. Coat the bottom and sides of a 9-by-13-inch baking pan with olive oil and set aside. In a large heavy-bottom saucepan, combine the water and chickpea flour and whisk well. Season the mixture with 1 teaspoon salt and some freshly ground black pepper.
2. Set the pot over low heat and bring to a gentle simmer while whisking constantly. Switch to a large rubber spatula and add the butter. Continue to cook, stirring constantly, until the butter is melted and the batter is quite thick, about 10 minutes.
3. Transfer the batter to the prepared pan and use the spatula to help spread it into an even layer. Let the batter cool for 20 minutes, then cover and refrigerate until very cold—at least 2 hours.
4. Flip the baking sheet onto a large cutting board and unmold the solidified batter. Slice the batter into 1-inch strips, then cut into approximately 3-inch fries.
5. Heat enough olive oil to generously coat the bottom of a large skillet. Working in batches and with an adult's help, carefully add the fries in a single layer and cook them until golden brown, about 3 minutes. Use tongs or a spatula to carefully flip the fries once, then cook until the other side is golden brown, about 2 to 3 more minutes.
6. Remove fries to a plate and immediately sprinkle on more salt. Serve fries with your favorite dipping sauce (like honey mustard) and lemon wedges, if desired. Makes about 36 fries.

ECO TIP OF THE WEEK
ORGANIZE A COAT DRIVE

With winter coming, it's important that everyone has a coat to keep them warm. A coat drive is an event where people drop off winter jackets they don't wear anymore or that they have outgrown so the coats can be distributed to people in need. A coat drive not only helps others but is also good for the environment because coats get reused instead of being thrown away. Start by asking your school, place of worship, or community center if you can set up a collection box there. Then spread the word through flyers or ask an adult to post about the drive on social media. Once you have the coats, you can go to onewarmcoat.org to find a nearby organization to donate them to.



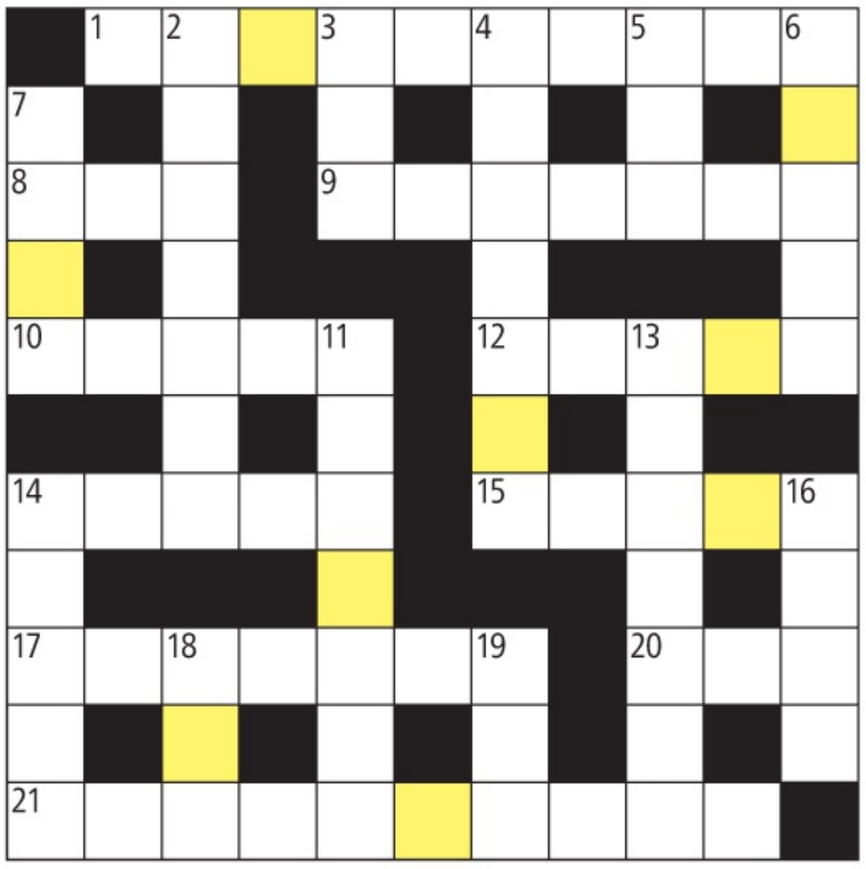
You can help others in need.

ERICA CLARK FOR STONE KITCHEN CREATIVE; GETTY IMAGES; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES

Puzzles

Keyword crossword

Once you have completed the crossword, transfer the letters in the yellow boxes, in order, into the boxes below to get the answer to the Keyword question.



ACROSS

1 Top diplomat to another country
8 Comfortable place for travelers to eat and stay overnight
9 Deceptive desert visions
10 Wash thoroughly
12 The first area encountered in a hotel or apartment building
14 Large flat tooth at the back of the mouth
15 Secure places to lock up jewels and valuables
17 Items stuck in the top of a birthday cake
20 Every single one
21 Large fruit with a juicy red interior and black seeds

DOWN

2 Quartz or calcium, for example
3 Upper limb
4 Moves down through a website page
5 World's most popular house pet
6 Like a metal hinge exposed to the rain
7 Skeleton parts that resemble a cage
11 Someone who breaks in to steal things
13 Large plains mammal that used to be on the nickel
14 Long-tailed and colorful parrot
16 A piece performed by one person
18 Hardware item screwed onto a bolt
19 Look at

Keyword question: What familiar product might be a dingy gray today if its original manufacturer hadn't made it look pink with some red dye he had available at the time?

CODE CRACKER

In this coded list of footwear, every letter has been replaced with a substitute. The same substitutions are used throughout the list. Hint: Every X here is an uncoded F. Use the letter patterns you find to crack the code. (NEED ANOTHER HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

Z C N Z Z W W T H

H T C O O W J H

F - F
X T C O - X T B O H

F
T B Y X W J H

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

THREE FOR ALL

Sort this list into three familiar three-part phrases, like THREE-RING CIRCUS or SALT LAKE CITY.

NEW OUT BREAK YOUR TAKE TIME PROPORTION GROUND OF

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

Cutting room

Divide this grid into five sections so each section consists of five adjacent boxes containing the numbers 1–5. The sections may have different shapes.

4	3	1	5	3
5	4	2	1	5
3	1	3	5	4
2	5	1	2	2
1	4	3	4	2

Spot the difference

These two pictures of dogs appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?

PUZZLES BY PUZZABILITY

Code cracker hint: Every H here is an uncoded S.

That's unbelievable!

Dog walking by the dozens

Thanks to dogged determination, Mitchell Rudy of Canada has claimed a Guinness World Records title. Rudy walked 38 rescue dogs at one time to break the record for the most dogs walked simultaneously by an individual. To qualify, Rudy had to walk for about a half mile while holding the dogs on leashes. He was inspired by a desire to increase adoptions. "We wanted to do something that made these dogs be the champions that they are," he said. "They're great animals, they deserve a good home, they just need a little bit of love."

Shoes for "Dancing Through Life"

The Crocs footwear company has teamed up with the upcoming film *Wicked* to create two new pairs of shoes inspired by the film's witches, Elphaba and Glinda. The metallic green Elphaba Crocs feature charms that say "defy gravity" and "wickedly beautiful." Glinda Crocs come in glittery pink with a bubble design on their heeled soles and a "best witch of all" golden charm. Extra charms available for purchase include designs of the Emerald City and a flying monkey. Once these "Popular" products sell out, they're likely to be gone "For Good."

Smell like a sack of potatoes

Get a whiff of this: The Bohoboco cosmetics company has released a potato-scented perfume. Bohoboco's founder, Michal Lach, said he was inspired by the sights and smells of his Polish hometown, where the tasty tubers were sold at farmers markets alongside other crops. Potatoes are the "golden treasures of the Polish countryside," he said. It took Lach's team about three years to come up with the perfect scent, which includes touches of beets, pine, leather, grass, and wheat. Bottles of Polish Potatoes perfume can be ordered for about $185.

Cheese buried in ancient tomb

Scientists have been studying bits of old cheese—in fact, some say the cheese is the world's oldest. Archaeologists discovered the morsels while exploring 3,500-year-old tombs in China's Tarim Basin. A new study has revealed that the dried-out chunks, found scattered around the necks of mummies, contain milk from cows and goats. But when one scientist was asked if she would try eating the ancient snacks, she said, "No way." Is this story real, or can you sniff out a stinky lie?*

*Real! The team identified the ancient morsels as a type of kefir cheese, which is made with yeast and healthy bacteria. One of the scientists said studying the ancient cheesy chunks helps historians understand how people lived and what they liked.

BONK/X; CROCS; BOHOBOCO PERFUME; GETTY IMAGES (2); SHUTTERSTOCK; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (2)

Your turn

Editor's note

When *The Week Junior* went to press on November 6, Donald Trump had been announced as the winner of the election for US President. He served in that office from 2017 to 2021, left the White House when Joe Biden took his place, and will return to serve another four-year term in January 2025. Opinions about the election outcome are sharply divided, with many people in our nation expressing happiness and many others feeling disappointment. In the coming days, we are sure to hear repeated calls for unity, and I hope we will be able to heed those words. In the meantime, I would like to congratulate Trump on his win as well as his opponent, Kamala Harris, for running a hard-fought campaign. She deserves our respect as well. No matter how you're feeling, we are always eager to hear from you. Please write to us anytime at *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief

Mattie, 11, and Jack, 13, Tennessee

A bake sale for Helene

"After reading in *The Week Junior* about the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene, we organized a bake sale to raise money for the victims. Over fall break, we gathered recipes, bought supplies, distributed fliers, created posters, and of course, baked! We made nine treats like pumpkin muffins, lemon squares, cookies, and brownies. Then, we set up a table in our neighborhood and opened for business. So many of our neighbors came to support us. We raised more than $400. Another benefit was that we got to meet a lot of new neighbors. It felt good to build up our community while raising money for people in need."

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

RIDDLE OF THE WEEK

What invention lets you look right through walls?

The window

CHARITY OF THE WEEK

Leave No Veteran Behind

This organization works to help veterans as they move into civilian life after their service in the US military ends. It provides employment training and helps veterans secure jobs. The group helps veterans pay off student debt from taking college courses and offers them the opportunity to mentor young people in their area. Find out more at leavenoveteranbehind.org.

ANNUAL COMPETITION

Enter our Winter Cover Contest!

If you would like to see your artwork on the cover of *The Week Junior*, here is your chance! We are accepting entries to our 2024 Winter Cover Contest. At right is the winning cover from our 2023 competition. The drawing form and consent form that are needed to enter can be found at kids.theweekjunior.com/activities. Entries will be judged on creativity, originality, and how well they reflect the winter theme and *The Week Junior*. Be sure your artwork is in color! When you're finished, have a parent fill out the consent form and email it with a digital image of your artwork to *covercontest@theweekjunior.com*. The deadline to apply is November 13!

THE WEEK Junior IT'S YOUR TURN Email your news, views, and photos to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

Your turn

FUTURE VOTERS

We have enjoyed receiving photos from readers who are keeping up with the election. If you have a photo to share, have an adult email it to us at *hello@theweekjunior.com*, along with anything you'd like to tell us about what's happening in the photo.

"I love it when my dad tells me I got a new issue of the magazine!" Sam, 9, New Jersey

"We are using The Big Debate to learn how to vote!" Rhys, 10, and Eli, 11, California

"I had fun filling out the voting plan with my family! I learned a lot about how my parents vote." Celia, 10, Colorado

Teacher OF THE WEEK

Teacher's name: **Mr. Bonn**

School: **Mark Twain Elementary School**

"Mr. Bonn is an amazing teacher. He always has something fun to do. I love how he makes us try again! Whenever we need help, he's there for us. He knows how to cheer people up and is truly the best teacher I've ever had. I wish I could be in Mr. Bonn's fifth grade class forever and ever."

Lillie, 10, Texas

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week!
Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

GETTY IMAGES; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES

Puzzle answers (from page 26)

	A	M	B	A	S	S	A	D	O	R
R		I		R		C		O		U
I	N	N		M	I	R	A	G	E	S
B		E				O				T
S	C	R	U	B		L	O	B	B	Y
		A		U		L		U		
M	O	L	A	R		S	A	F	E	S
A				G				F		O
C	A	N	D	L	E	S		A	L	L
A		U		A		E		L		O
W	A	T	E	R	M	E	L	O	N	

Keyword answer: bubble gum

Code cracker
high heels
slippers
flip-flops
loafers

Three for all
break new ground
take your time
out of proportion

4	3	1	5	3
5	4	2	1	5
3	1	3	5	4
2	5	1	2	2
1	4	3	4	2

Quiz answers (from page 30) **1** a) Freddie Freeman **2** Snoutlet **3** False. They have said it's getting taller. **4** b) Raccoon **5** c) Susan B. Anthony **6** a) Fennec fox **7** True **8** A pangolin **9** World War II **10** c) Michelle Obama **11** False. There are about 400. **12** b) Massachusetts **13** Bill-tip organ **14** Baseball **15** True

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.

Quiz

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 Who won the Most Valuable Player award in this year's World Series?

a) Freddie Freeman b) Mookie Betts

c) Shohei Ohtani

a☐ b☐ c☐

2 What is the name of the piglike creature in the new video game Mario and Luigi: Brothership?

3 True or false? Scientists have said that Mount Everest is shrinking.

True☐ False☐

4 In the new series *Carl the Collector*, the main character is what kind of animal?

a) Beaver b) Raccoon c) Squirrel

a☐ b☐ c☐

5 An early polling site was recently set up in the home of what famous suffragist?

a) Alice Paul b) Lucretia Mott

c) Susan B. Anthony

a☐ b☐ c☐

6 Which fox species is the smallest in the world?

a) Fennec fox b) Kit fox c) Red fox

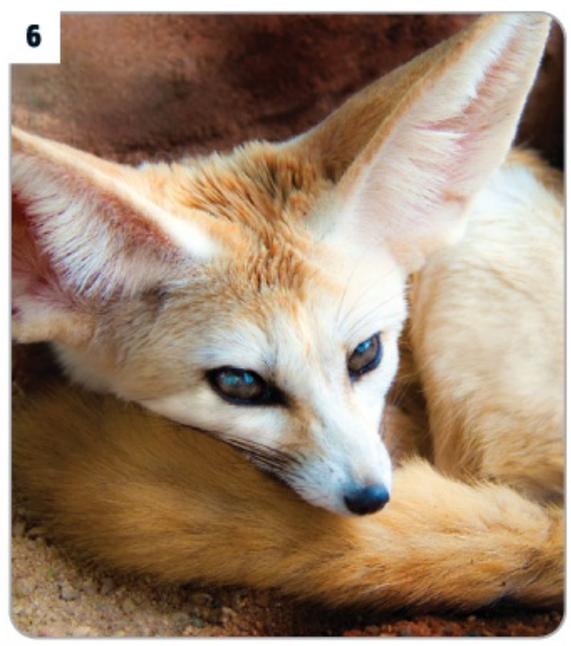
a☐ b☐ c☐

7 True or false? Composer John Williams has been nominated for more Oscars than any other living person.

True☐ False☐

8 A California high school student modeled a tree-planting robot after what animal?

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.



9 In the book *The Bletchley Riddle*, Jakob is recruited to break codes in what war?

10 Artist Amy Sherald painted a portrait of which former First Lady?

a) Laura Bush

b) Melania Trump

c) Michelle Obama

a☐ b☐ c☐

11 True or false? There are about 4,000 recognized dog breeds in the world.

True☐ False☐

12 The 2024 Rockefeller Center Christmas tree will come from which US state?

a) Maine

b) Massachusetts

c) New York

a☐ b☐ c☐

13 Researchers recently found that seabird beaks have a special feature called what?

14 Japanese Americans recently played which sport at the Manzanar National Historic Site in California?

15 True or false? A Canadian man named Mitchell Rudy set a world record by walking 38 rescue dogs at once.

True☐ False☐

GETTY IMAGES (4); NINTENDO

THE WEEK Junior

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GRAPHIC

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